

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 186724

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ORIGIN EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

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YYYWQ

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R 192221Z SEP 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMCONSUL PARAMARIBO

AMCONSUL CURACAO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 186724

.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRN, NL, NA

SUBJECT: CIVAIR - NEGOTIATIONS WITH ANTILLES

REF : THE HAGUE 3105

1. BY NOTE DATED AUGUST 14, GON REQUESTED CONSULTATIONS WITH USG UNDER ARTICLE 12 OF US-NETHERLANDS AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENT ON AIR SERVICES BETWEEN NETHERLANDS ANTILLES AND US. NOTE SUGGESTED TALKS TAKE PLACE CURACAO AND INVITED US PROPOSE A DATE.

2. WE ASSUME ANTILLES WANT PERMISSION TO COMBINE SAN JUAN AND MIAMI OPERATIONS OF ALM AND POSSIBLY SOMETHING FOR WINAIR. IN VIEW FACT THAT BENEFITS UNDER US-NETHERLANDS AGREEMENT IMBALANCED IN FAVOR DUTCH BY RATIO OF MORE THAN 3 TO 1, USG COULD NOT POSSIBLY GRANT DUTCH ADDITIONAL UNCOMPENSATED RIGHTS. HOWEVER, OUR QUARREL IS WITH KLM, NOT WITH ANTILLES AIRLINES. WE ARE ACCORDINGLY CONSIDERING
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PAGE 02 STATE 186724

POSSIBILITY OF ADOPTING POSITION THAT US CAN CONSIDER

ANTILLES REQUEST FOR EXPANDED ROUTE AUTHORITY PROVIDED
USG-GON BILATERAL AGREEMENT IS FIRST RENEGOTIATED INTO
TWO SEPARATE AGREEMENTS, ONE COVERING ROUTES BETWEEN US
AND HAGUE AND OTHER BETWEEN US AND ANTILLES (AND PERHAPS
THIRD, BETWEEN US AND SURINAM). FROM USG STANDPOINT,
US-ANTILLES AGREEMENT COULD BE WITH EITHER GON OR GONA,
DEPENDING ON GON-GONA CONSTITUTIONAL RELATIONSHIP. UNDER
THESE ALTERED CIRCUMSTANCES, WE MIGHT BE ABLE ACCOMMODATE

GONA ON ROUTE REQUESTS, THOUGH PROBABLY AT PRICE OF
KLM ABANDONING ANTILLES-NYC ROUTE.

3. CLEARLY, DUTCH WOULD NOT LIKE THIS PROPOSAL, BUT
WE ASSUME ANTILLES WOULD FIND IT MOST ATTRACTIVE, AND
HOPEFULLY SUPPORT IT STRONGLY.

4. DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE VIEWS AND ASSESSMENTS
BY EMBASSY, CURACAO, AND PARAMARIBO WITHOUT DISCUSSION
WITH HOST GOVERNMENTS AT THIS TIME. RUSH

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